

Ref. T5/1.01

## PROVISIONAL CATEGORIZATION OF LIQUID SUBSTANCES

1 Shown at annex hereto are the lists of products, the pollution category and minimum carriage requirements of which have been established through Tripartite Agreements and registered with the Secretariat in accordance with the unified interpretation of regulation 3(4) of Annex II of MARPOL 73/78. This circular replaces those previously issued as MEPC/Circ.281 of 5 August 1994 and MEPC/Circ.281/Rev.1 of 7 March 1995. The lists are circulated in accordance with sub-paragraph 2A.1.8 of the unified interpretation. Annexes 1 to 4 comprise Lists 1 to 4, and annex 5 comprises the list of country abbreviations used for annexes 1 to 4, as follows:

- annex 1:** List 1: Pure or technically pure substances;
- annex 2:** List 2: Pollutant only mixtures classified by calculation or assessed as a mixture;
- annex 3:** List 3: Trade-named substances with safety hazards;
- annex 4:** List 4: Pollutant only mixtures with >3% unassessed components; and
- annex 5:** List of country abbreviations.

2 While the list of country abbreviations is based for the most part on the telex abbreviation for each country, certain countries, for example, Liberia, Panama and the United States, are listed differently as LI, PA and US. Since the lists have been issued previously using these abbreviations, it is considered advisable to keep to those same abbreviations.

3 As seen in the lists, most of the products contained are trade-named substances under N.O.S. entries. Because of the difficulty in translating trade names (sometimes the same products are marketed under different trade names in different countries), the products are entered as notified. The lists are issued in English only. In order to make changes to the Tripartite lists easier to identify, the following fonts have been used in printing:

- .1 Courier/Upright/Light: for printing records that have not changed since the last amendment.
- .2 *Courier/Italic/Bold:* *for highlighting any detail that has changed since the last amendment, unless the product has been transferred from one list to another, in which case font 3 is used.*
- Note: New products may be recognized as the whole line will be in this font.*
- .3 **Gothic/Upright/Bold:** **for identifying records that have been moved from one list to another.**
- Note: The entire entry for such records will be highlighted in this font which then distinguishes them from those completely new entries to the lists where font 2 is used.**



4 On the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Bulk Chemicals, the Marine Environment Protection Committee agreed that this circular should also include the following:

- annex 6:** Oil-like substances;
- annex 7:** Substances not shipped in pure form but as components in mixtures;
- annex 8:** Tripartite contact addresses;
- annex 9:** List of manufacturers authorized to conduct pollutant-only assessments by calculation;
- annex 10:** Lube-oil additives; and
- annex 11:** Hydrocarbon families.

5 Guidelines for the provisional assessment of liquids transported in bulk are set out in MEPC/Circ.265 of 6 April 1993. When notifying the Secretariat of any provisional assessment made under Tripartite Agreement, Administrations are requested to:

- .1 specify whether in list 1, 2, 3 or 4; and**
- .2 provide all relevant data to be included in the circular.**

Incomplete data on a substance will result in the entry for its provisional assessment being delayed while the application is returned to the originator.

6 While stressing the importance of correct data being supplied to the Secretariat, it should be noted in particular that, when proposing a product for lists 2 and 4, the component responsible for the greatest pollution potential, following the word “contains”, should be identified. Such component is that with the highest value obtained from % x pollution factor. In the event of there being more than one component with equal highest scores, discretion may be used in deciding whether one or both should be identified (see MEPC/Circ.265). The name of the substance should be one of those appearing in chapters 17 or 18 of the IBC Code or those in lists 1 or 7 of this circular.

7 It should also be pointed out that it is essential the proper technical name be used for the purposes of shipping documentation. When shipping a pollution hazard only mixture, the appropriate n.o.s. entry in the IBC Code, together with the trade name and the substance contained, would form the proper shipping name. For example if the trade name is IMO 1234 and it contains “Zinc alkyl dithiophosphate (C3-C14)” as the component with the greatest pollution potential, then the correct shipping name would be:

**Noxious liquid, N.F., (15) n.o.s. (IMO 1234 contains Zinc alkyl dithiophosphate (C3-C14)), S.T. 3, Cat. C**

The Master of a type 3 ship certified fit to carry n.o.s. 15 products would know that he can accept the cargo without concern as to fire, toxicity and other safety hazards and that, in the event of an accidental

spill, he could report to the coastal State authorities the name of the substance which would cause pollution problems.

8 MEPC 37, in September 1995, noted that certain products have an expiry date of December 1995. These are products which the BCH Working Group on the Evaluation of Safety and Pollution Hazards of Chemicals has not as yet been able to evaluate. However, the first session of the BLG Sub-Committee will be held in March 1996 and these products will be evaluated at that time. The MEPC therefore agreed to extend the expiry date to 30 June 1996, and authorized the BLG Sub-Committee to issue an addendum to this circular, indicating the fate of the substances/products, i.e. as to whether they are permanently classified or the provisional assessment expired. It should be pointed out, however, that the original expiry date of December 1995 has not been changed for the purposes of this circular.

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